## EXPERTS AT THE TUG OF WAR

THE TOUGHEST TEST OF MUSCLE IN THE REALM OF SPORT.

English and American Styles Contrasted-Improvements Made by College Men-It Takes Brains as Well as Braws, Among all the sports of summer or winter, indoors or outdoors, there is none that excites more popular interest, when it can be seen, than the tug of war, and there is hardly one that calls for more strength and endurance than this game. It has experienced a peculiar evolution from a crude unrecognized game. played by country boys, to one of those sports which take their places legitimately among organized pastimes, by reason of their rules and avstematic way of going about it. It is a distinct feature to-day of college and regimental exercises, and the greatest emulation is aroused between the different institutions which are represented by tug of war teams. Aithough the sport calls particularly for strength of a peculiar kind, it is nevertheless necessary, to accomplish the best results in it, to utilize the brain to a considerable extent. People who have not indulged in sports fre-



THE DARTMOUTH STYLE.

noment that there is any mental stimulus or training or exercise called for in it. Nevertheless, it does exist to a great degree, and none the less in the muscular exercise known as the tug of war. The team has to be controlled and directed by a captain, and that captain has to exercise his mind in the keenest way, has to be on the alert to watch his opponents and has to know a great deal about the distribution of force, in order to do his work well. How this comes about may best be told in the words of a well-known member of a tug war team, Mr. Charles Morrill, formerly of the Dartmouth College team.

He says of it: "In a well contested tug of war, weight does not count as much as in ordinarily supposed. Brawn and muscle, good staying power, with coolness and a shrewd anchor, are what are required. The exercise has advanced a great deal during recent years under the fostering influence of college athletes and regimental gymnasts. In the old days the method was a rough, irregular sport, wherein men caught hold of one end of a rope and tried to pull along a similar crowd of men who held on to the other end. Now there are very few places where the tug of war is pulled that the game consists in dragging the other side at all. There are several ways of playing it, three of which may be considered as the most important, and in none of those three does the element of pulling the other crowd enter into it. It is now the aim of those who pull in the tug of war to get the rope away from opponents, and not to drag them about.

Before taking up the American style of playing, I will describe the method recently adopted in Great Britain. There the Amateur Athletic Association has drawn up a new code of rules to regulate contests of this nature, They are not all of them new, but they show the difference between the English and the American styles of the game. They prescribe. flist an equal number of competitors, so that the sides may be evenly balanced, that the rope shall be long enough to allow a pull of twelve feet and have twelve feet slack at each end, while four feet is allowed for each puller. The rope must not be less than four inches in circumference, and shall have no knots or any-thing which can assist one in retaining his

rip on it.

"A tape must be fastened to the centre of the rope, and at six feet on each side of this centre tape a side tape must also be fastened to the rope."

"A centre line shall be marked on the ground, and at six feet on either side of it two lines shall be made parallel to the centre line.



THE ANCHOR.

At the start the rope must be taut, and the contra tape over the centre line, the competitors being outside the side lines.

"The signal to start shall be by word of mouth. During no part of the pull shall the jost of a competitor be allowed to go beyond the centre line. The pull shall be won when one side shall have pulled the side line of their comments over their own side line.

"No competitor shall wear boots or shoes with any projecting mails, springs, or prints of any kind, nor shall a competitor be allowed to make a hole in the ground with his feet, or any other way, before the start. No competitor shall willfully ough the ground with any part of his person but his feet. If the teams have a weight limit, each member of the team must be weighed before the contest. The tug shall be wen by two out of three pulls.

"Those who are familiar with the method of playing this game in colleges and regimental young some tape upon the rone, which is fastened yacely at the centre, and the side tapes and sole lines are not much used. And if will be acticed too, that according to the English rule he contestants stand during the trial, and if hoy should lie down or touch the ground with they part of their body except their fact, the table side could claim foul; with us, on the interside could claim foul; with us, on the interside at Davis of playing the consistants lie upon the ground at the very start, and it is a signal that they are beaten if they are pulled up from that position.

"The two methods of pulling in this country may be termed for convenience the 'farmer's pull' and the regimental or 'cleat' pull. The armer's pull and the regimental or 'cleat' pull. The armer's pull and the regimental or 'cleat' pull. The armer's pull and the regimental or 'cleat' pull. The armer's pull and the regimental or 'cleat' pull. The



PULLED OFF THE CLEATS.

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bole is dug in the ground for each competitor. It is in the shape of a right-angled triangle. The competitor is almost scated in this hole, his feet being braced against its perpendicular wall. This, of course, gives the strongest kind of purchase to the puller.

The strain in a tug-of-war contest really comes upon the whole body, but the muscles of the back are, perhaps, those which are most immediately in use in it. The hands have to gift the rope very hard, in order that it shall not ship through, but there will be no danger that it will ship through but there will be no danger that it will ship through to prevent the other tide from pulling harder. The muscles of the large are not course, very important in this exercise, as upon them somes a great measure of cise as upon them comes a great measure of the strain in bracing against the wall of dirt. The defeat or victory in this kind of pull is reckoned by the tape upon the rope which originally is placed directly over a middle line leaves the two teams, and if it is pulled not acre than an inch to one side or the other dur-

ing the time allowed for the contest, the victory is won. This recalls another essential difference between the English style and the American. The English rules do not mention any time for the endurance of a puil. The old style of tugging on this side the water allowed an hour. If during that time one side or the other was not pulled a good distance actually along the ground the contest was considered a draw. The improvements of to-day necessitate the exercise of so much more strength and strain upon the pullers that it is usual to limit the time of the pull to from four to ten minutes, five being the ordinarily accepted duration. In one of the best contests on record, the teams representing the Massachusetts Institute of Technology pulled the crack Harvard team five inches only. This was very soon after the Harvard had won in a tug-of-war against a team from the Seventh Regiment of New York.

The Harvard team tugs upon the third style which! purpose to describe. A long board plain and a yard or three and a half feet broad is marie of sufficient length to allow eight men to recline on it, with a space of a few feet between the two teams. Four men constitute a team. The one at the further end is called the anchor. The men are usually stripped to the waist, without any head goar, with heavy shoes, and a leather pad is worn on the upper



TAKING TIME AND UMPIRING.

arm, over which the rope passea. Treusers or knee breeches are worn, as the player's caprice suggests, though the latter offers some little advantage, or, at least, comfort. The rope's length is about that indicated in the English rules. The end of it is passed once around the walst of the anchor, which is protected by a strong leather belt, and is caught in a slip-knot in front of him. The anchor is not necessarily the captain of the team, but he is the one who directs the tugging during the contest, and upon whose skill much of the success of the team depends. The captain may occupy any one of the four positions, but he usually takes the one just in front of the anchor, where he can advise with the anchor in case of necessity. The men, when they lie upon the plank, have their feet braced against cleats, and the rope is generally passed between the knees of each one and the hands clasped about it just back of the knees, The contest is begun with both teams standing by their cleats; the anchor stands in such a way that he can sit down at once, and the others, with one foot braced against the cleat and the hands in the rope, are prepared to fall at full length the moment the pistol shot is heard. The starter stands at the centre line with the pistol in hand, his foot upon the tape around the rope pressing it to the floor. This insures a fair start, but after the pistol shot his foot is raised and the side that gets down quickest may, therefore, get an advantageous start, For the lirst few minutes pistol shot his foot is raised and the side that gets down quickest may, therefore, get an advantageous start. For the first few minutes after the drop there is always a tremendous strain on each side, each team hoping to get an advantage over the other from any confusion that may have resulted from the sudden drop. The anchor maintains a sitting during the entire game, unless, indeed, the strain from the opposing team is so strong as to bring him and his associates off the cleats. This does not often happen. en happen. After the first few seconds of strain the

"After the first few seconds of strain the anchor generally gives the word to his men to hold hard, and for a few seconds they actually rest on the cleats, for, excepting under a strong heave, the anchor himself is capable of holding the rope against an ordinary pull from the opposite side. When the anchor thinks that he sees an opportunity of pulling them off their cleats, or wishes to pull the tape over as far as possible, he gives the word to heave, and the men on his side straighten their legs and tug for all they're worth, while the anchor leans forward ready to gather in the slack in case they get the advantage, and if the other side happens to pull the stronger, and the rope seems to be going that way, the anchor has to loosen the slighnot in front of him and let it go a moment, in order to prevent his men from being pulled over their cleats. If he should not let it go such an event would be almost sure to happen, and it is therefore plain that a great deal of responsibility rests upon the anchor, who must be a man of the coolest nerve as well as of giant strength. One of the things which the team in a tug-of-war contest has to practise to attain is simultaneous action. If the four men drout of the plank at the pistol shot the team in a tug-of-war contest has to prac-tise to attain is simultaneous action. If the four men drop to the plank at the pistol shot at exactly the same instant, they are almost sure to get an advantage over the other team



DEFEATED.

DEFEATED.

and when the word to heave is given by the anchor, if they all rull at exactly the same instant, the same result is bound to follow. It usually happens, therefore, that the best-trained toam will win, and weight does not count as much as might be expected. The limit of weight in a team is variable. In the Seventh Regiment it is 660 pounds, allowing an average weight of 165 pounds for each man. The anchor is in almost constant consultation with his men during the contest. He advises them by a quiet word just previous to any order he proposes to give.

men during the contest. He advises them by a quiet word just previous to any order he proposes to give.

"Concerning weight, I remember a contest pulled in 1886 at Dartmouth. There was a fat team, each one or whom tipped the beam at over two hundred. The contest was pulled on the farmer's system, with holes in the ground, and the fat team were fairly pulled out of their holes by light weights whose combined aveirdupois was not more than 650 pounds.

"Gyennesium-made muscle doos not tell as much in a tug-of-war contest as might be expected. A man whose biceps are developed from Indian clubs and ring work may not have the vigor of tough, natural strength. Football players always make good tug-of-war men and rowing is one of the best exercises that can be indulged in to fit one's self for a contest.

"The Dartmouth style of digging holes for the feet, and large enough for the whole lower part of the body, for sometimes they are two and a half feet deep, makes their tug-of-war a very tough strain. This competition is of not much use as an exercise: it is more directed to exhibiting thus acquiring strength, and is rough, hard, trying work, but it is also a very manly sport, and will doubtless continue to hold its well-exhibiting the sumbat subordinate position in the realms of sport."

Pruposing to Purchase Whittier's Pince,

Proposing to Purchase Whittier's Pince. Miss Frances E. Willard, who is a warm friend of the patriot-poet Whittier, in a letter o Mr. William J. Bok of Brooklyn, referring to Mr. Whittier's 80th birthday anniversary, writes

as follows:

Woman's National Christian Temperance |
Union, President's Office.

Evanston, Ill., Dec. 22, 1887. |

Kind Friend: The early home of John Greenleaf Whittler, America's and Woman's Laurente, a home celebrated in some of the most cherished verse yet penned, ought, like Mt. Vernon, to belong to America. When I visited it near Haverhill, Mass. some years ago, it was in the hands of tenants whose habits of living were such as to make my pilgrimage a penance.

To purchase the old place and a few adjoining acres would be an easy matter. Were I rich I would do this at once and present the sacred old home-hearth to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. But cannot many women who are not rich cambine to raise the money? If some great American newspaper would stand as leader of the movement, it would soon march to success.

If some Eastern ladies will begin, we of the

to success.
If some Eastern ladies will begin, we of the
West will do our part. Sincerely,
FRANCES E. WILLARD.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24.—The police have in charge a nine-year-old boy, who was given to them by Manning Light of Atlanta, who says he brought the boy from Atlanta to this city at the request of Mr. Beckwith of Lawrence, Kan. the request of Mr. Beckwith of Lawrence, Kan. Beckwith said he started from Tampa, Fla. with Alexander Simpson, the boy's father, and that on Wednesday night near Wayeross, Ga. Mr. Mingson went to a closet, since which time nothing has been seen or heard of him. Mr. Beckwith brought the boy to Atheria and then seen thing here with Mr. Light, Mr. Simpson was bookkeeper for the Flaut Steamship and Lawrence, Kan., where the boy says he expected to start a dry goods store. There are lears that he was murdered. Simpson's former home was Jersey City, and his wife is at Rewark.

GOSSIP FROM THE CAPITAL.

SIX WEEKS OF GAYETY BEGINNING WITH THE NEW YEAR.

Entertaluments at the White House-Molli Vilna-Elepements in Washington-Story of a Particularly Interesting One.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 .- The season of just six weeks, beginning on New Year's Day, promses to be gay enough for old and young. It is not unusual for old people in Washington to be gay. Of course, one does not refer to eightles and ninties, but in people whose ages are never known, but may be set down anywhere between the fifties and seventies. The President's reception on New Year's Day sets the ball rolling, or, to be exactly proper, inaugurates the season. After that, there will be the official entertain nents, about the same as last year, a series of dinners and evening receptions by the President, and Saturday afternoons by the President's wife. It is a custom, recognized as a law, for the President to give at least three State dinners, and as many receptions, in the season. He may draw the line there and nobody will find fault, or he may go right on with as many dinners and evening parties as he chooses. The "extras" are optional with any President. This season the White House plans bring something into each of the six weeks, There are the three dinners, the first, by long-established custom, to the Cabinet: the second to the diplomatic corps, and the third to the Supreme Court Justices. The dinners are to be on alternate Thursday evenings with the three official receptions. The public reception will bring up the last thing on Tuesday evening before Ash Wednesday. Mrs. Cleveland will probably hold four Saturday afternoons in the dinner weeks. By this arrange ment the hand-shaking orded comes but once a week, after New Year's week. This seems to be the outlook at present, though changes are always possible and often probable. The holidays are likely to pass quietly at the White House. There are no guests at present and out of hours for the admission of the public to the East Room, no private house could be stiller. A few visitors are received in the evening, mostly strangers, whom the President's wife is sure to see by appointment, or by sending in cards. When a visitor said, half apolegetically, one evening: "You know, to meet the President and the President's wife is a part of one's visit to the capital." Mrs Cleveland answered with responsive frankness: "Yes, I know it is. I am sure I should think

80, too.' Mrs. Folsom may remain in Washington the most of the winter with the relatives she is visiting. Oak View is not to see a repetition of the very pleasant morning receptions given there by her last season. The house is closed to visitors and in charge of the servants. It looks very much as if the President and his wife would eat their Christmas turkey in the White House. Fashion is weakening, and summer country houses are not half so comfortable as houses in town. All of the Cabinet families are to pass the holidays here, with the exception of Mrs. Lamar, who has gone to theorgia for the festive season. The three Whitney children are home from school to spend the holidays with "the baby" and their parents. Dorothy Whitney is much like any other healthy baby-prosy-cheeked, happy-tempered, active, and assertive of her rights. Two New York boys, Willie Vanderoll and Charley Barlow, are to spend Christmas week with Harry and Payne Whitney. It is given out that during the season Mrs. Whitney will have her card receptions on Friday evenings, since Thursday evening has been selected for the White House enjertailments. fortable as houses in town. All of the Cabinet

entertainments.

The wile of the Postmaster-General is not in her usual good health. She has not been quite well since her return with her husband, when the President and his wite came back from the West. Other Childred houses have been opened informally on Wednesday, according to the lashion before the season, but Mrs. Vilas has not been able to see visitors. Miss Vilas has no great liking for society, and, of course, can hardly be expected to relieve her mother of the duties. Her vounger sister, Molie Vilas, on the contrary, if "out," would take upon herself the burdes, or rather to her, pleasure of entertaining with a vim and spirit that would be refreshingly invigorating. Molile Vilas is a typical Western girl. She has health that is perfect, and a breezy prairie air about her that is resistless. Her father, mother, sister, and brother would be rated brunettes, but Molie is a fair-naired blonde, with the richest pink in her cheeks and blue eyes that are without the fear of looking out frankly when she is talking. She is about 14, and is the President of the Children's Christmas Club. Her administration shows a vigorous, well-defined policy. She is a positive girl, and of course while positive people win the warmest followers, they also have half-hearted friends. One of her schoolmates has declared: "Mollie is dying to come out while her father is in the Cabinet, She thinks Cholinets ought to be elected for six years. She'd be 18, and then she'd surely come out. Mollie Vilas will probably come out at 18, entertainments. The wife of the Postmaster-General is not in

Mollie Vilas will probably come out at 18, whether her father is in the Cabinet, or not whether her father is in the Cabinet, or not. Henry Vilas, the only son, is about 17. He is a pupil here in the public schools, and is regarded among his school fellows as the best mannered boy in town.

Elopements in Washington seem to be opi-

Espenients in washington seen to deem, demic, occurring so frequently that they no longer cause alarm. In almost every instance the mystery is to know the reason why there should be a supported that they are the mystery of the support of the supp

take you right over to England. Now, try not to be like a vulgar American, my son, for my

take you right over to England. And to be like a vulgar American, my son, for my sake,"

"Father is an American, mother. Didn't you know that when you were married."

"To be sure I knew it. My family—"

"Was your family better than father's family?" interrupted the son.

"Yes, Much better. They didn't approve at all. But I didn't expect then to live among the vulgar Americans. My father was a barrister, and, of course, higher than your father's father, who was only a doctor. There was a vast difference, my son, as you will learn later."

"I thought a barrister was the same as a lawyer, mother. There can't be a great difference."

"Yes, there is a great difference. A barrister in London is much higher than a lawyer over here. At any rate, my family was one of the best, and it was a great blow when I married an American. Now, see that you do not get any of the ways of these vulgar Americans. It would really break my heart to sae you like these grinning, vulgar American boys."

This is no fiction, but the real conversation, almost literal, word for word, between the English wife of the American naval officer and their son. Will the son be an American or will be be a very English young man with such training?

Several handsomo dinner parties have marked the evenings of this week, but the

their son. Will the son be an American or will he be a very English young man with such training?

Several handsome dinner parties have marked the evenings of this week, but the days have been filled with Christmas shopping. There was a young people's dinner at Secretary Endicott's house on Thursday evening, in honor of the bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Pedroso. Mr. and Mrs. Leiter gave a 4 to 7 toa reception for their daughter, who is one of the dobutantes this season-also on Thursday. Another debutante is Miss Dahlgren, daughter of the late Admiral Dahlgren. Mrs. Dahlgren is now in her own house on Thomas Circle, and has taken Wednesday for her reception day.

Justice and Mrs. Blatchford will spend their holidays in New York with their son's family. Gen, and Mrs. Sheridan have sent their twing firls and little boy down to her parents' house, to keep them away from the eldest daughter, who is threatened with diphtheria. Christmas, heretofore a happy time in the Sheridan household, is this year bereft of its usual joyousness. The prospective Postmaster-General, Don M. Dickinson, has taken one of the elegant houses on Farragut square, owned by Paymaster Bacon of the navy.

Mrs. J. V. L. Prayn and daughters of Albany have gone there for Christmas week.

The annual ball of the British Legation is fixed for Jan. 4.

Toward the end of January the new Mexican Legation house will be formally opened with a ball given by the Minister and his wife. The ballroom is nearly as large as that of the British Legation, and, with the large drawing rooms, make a suite of rooms well arranged for the entertainment of a large company of guests.

At other legations there is promise of a reaccing by the Janness Minister and wife

guests.

At other legations there is promise of a reception by the Japanese Minister and wife of And. despite several unpleasant memories of last year, it is said the Chinese Minister will give a ball this year.

HARDSHIP IN NORTHERN MAINE, Men from Sunny Italy Give Place to Finns

Bangon, Dec. 24 .- If the hardships and privations and the various impositions suffered

by many of the laborers employed in the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway across Northern Maine could be fully described, the narrative would be a good companion to THE Sun's articles on "The White Slaves of Gotham." It was bad enough, breaking the way for a railroad through the rugged, pathless wilderness iast summer, although the sun blistered the bark on the trees, and mosquitoes and black flies swarmed, but now, when the ground is covered with snow, and cold gales sweep through the forest, the lot of the poor navvies is infinitely verse. The gangs of Italians brought from New York during the warm weather have nearly all returned, being unable to stand the cold. A few gangs remain, but when the present unseaonable weather is succeeded by the genuine blizzards of January, these, too, will be glad to get back to Mulberry street. The Italians neeived during the fell the idea of making buts of earth, thinking that they could pass the winter in such habitations in comfort, while living in their tents would be out of the question, and accordingly they burrowed out large numbers of caves in the hillsides, building up

living in their tents would be out of the question, and accordingly they burrowed out large numbers of caves in the hillsides, building up the front with a wall of logs, stones, or sods, leaving a narrow door, or else built houses entirely of sods and boughs. These remain as groundents to their usoless toil, and probably have no other tenants than bears, being unit for the habitations of men.

A few weeks ago some hundreds of Germans, Irishmen, and Finns were brought to this city from New York and sent, together with a number of Province men, upthe line to that section of the road building between Greenville and Mattawamkeng. The other day the majority of them came back, and a more disgusted set of men never struck Bangor. One of them, George Murray of Newfoundiand, describes the work on the railroad as worse than slavery, and the manner of living as barbarous. He says, and his story is but a repetition of those told by scores of other men who have been there, that the wages now paid are differencents an hour. The men are obliged to live in shantles into which the snow sifts, the rain leaks, and the wind blows with perfect freedom. They are obliged to provide their own bedding, and if they have no blanket of their own it will cost them \$2.50 to buy a poor apology for one of the company's sutler. Outgraceous prices are charged the men for everything, and they have to submit to the bleeding process or go without, being far from any settlement and generally without ready money. Morray says that the has seen \$2.50 charged to men for a pair of mittens, while for a shirt worth \$1 in Bangor the sutler's charge is \$3.50. A pair of snow pace, a sort of wool boot costs \$4.50 at the commany's store, and if a man uses any soap it costs him at the rate of about 30 cents a pound for a very cheap article. Each man has to pay 50 cents a month for washing, and the same sum for doctor's fee, whether he has any use for a doctor or not.

The price of board is \$3.50 a week, and the beard is described as something fit to give an all

Encouraging its Employees to Save their

Beginning with Jan. 2, 1888, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will inaugurate a system of savings accounts with its employees which President Roberts believes will result in great benefit to an army of persons on the ompany's pay rolls. He has issued a circular to those in the company's service on the main line of the road and its branches and leased line of the road and its branches and leased lines in Panusylvania, notifying them of the scheme. Certain ticket and freight agents are authorized to receive for the company from any employee sums of even dollars not to exceed \$100 in any one month, for which certificates of deposit will be issued. On these deposits the company will pay interest to the depositors at the rate of 4 per cent, per annum. President Roberts believes that the convenience and absolute security of this savings system will induce employees to put away a large share of their wages that is now spent needlessly, and to prompt them to thrifty and provident habits for the development of which only the opportunity was needed.

A Wrecked Lumber Vessel Towed Into Port. A communication from United States Consul McKay, at Teneriffe, dated Nov. 12, reports that a capsized vessel of about 600 tons, water-logged and abandoned, had been towed there, and was under charge of the Captain of the Port. who was discharging her cargo of Southern pine. Some 300 pieces of sawed stuff had ern pine. Some 300 pieces of sawed stuff had been discovered and discharged, the greater part of which consisted of square logs from eight to forty feet long and eight to eighteen in he square, and some thanks of three to four inches thickness. The logs are marked "8" on the side, and a few are marked "1" in a diamond on the end, both cut into the wood. It is thought by shipmasters that the wreck had been in the water six to eight mentios. The authorities propose to turn over to the Government the proceeds, after paying salvage. The name, rig, and outlonality of the vessel have ment the proceeds, after paying salvage. The name, rig. and nationality of the vessel have not been discovered.

Members of the rival debating societies of the College of the City of New York met Friday night in the college chapel in a contest for the \$50 prize given annually by Elliott F. Shepard. The subject under discussion was:
"Resulted, That if it be desirable to restrict the
evils of intemperance, high license is a more
effective means than probibition." Messrs,
Leasier and Mandel, representing the Clionia
Society, argued for the affirmative, and Mossrs,
Smith and Bell of the Phrenocosnia Society for
the negative. The recree, Noah Davis, decided in favor of the affirmative side, and
awarded to Mr. Mandell the \$50 prize.

A

INTERESTING TURF TOPICS.

GREAT BACING ASSOCIATIONS TREAD-ING ON EACH OTHER'S HEELS, American Jockey Club Mesteries-Driving

and Toboggan Clubs—Anxiety About Tea Tray—Parole Reappears in Jerome Park. The announcement made in THE Sun a reck ago that a conflict of dates was likely to occur between the great racing associations has proved true. The Brooklyn Jockey Club claims May 15 to May 30 for its spring meeting, and the American Jockey Club has selected May 29 to June 12 for the opening meeting of the club under the new managers. As Memorial Day comes on May 29, this will cause a division of the regular racing forces, which will be not over strong now that horses racing on the side tracks are barred. The Coney Island the side tracks are barred. The Coney Island Jockey Club has fixed upon June 14, Suburban Day, as the opening day, the regular meeting to continue up to June 30, with an extra day on the Fourth of July. This will interfere with Monmouth's plan of beginning on July 4 and running to Aug. 30. It is also rumored that the American Jockey Club will inaugurate a summer meeting on July 4, but as yet they only claim from Oct, 2 to Oct, 15 for their fail meeting. With the Brooklyn Club yet to put in a claim for a portion of the summer days, there is a probability that martial music will add to the excitement at the seashore the coming season.

The real doings of the American Jockey Club have puzzled searchers for news during the past week. It was stated as a fact by those working with the new management that the Executive Committee had met in Mr. W. A. Duer's office and elected a new ticket, with Mr. John Hunter to succeed the Hon. August Belmont as Fresident, and Mr. John A. Morris to follow Judge Monson as Treasurer. Mr. Duer said that the matter was news to him; there had been no meeting of the Executive Committee and no such election. At the Jockey Club rooms the officers said that no meeting had been held, but that in all probability Mr. Hunter would be the man selected for the Presidency. Then, again, it is said that a letter from Mr. Hunter, accepting the Presidency, was shown by one of the new managers. The whole matter will probably be made public at the regular meeting of the Executive Committee to be held this week.

made public at the regular meeting of the Excecutive Committee to be held this week.

The Driving Club of New York transacts business in an open, democratic way. At the meeting on Thursday ovening, held for the purpose of electing new officers, all members who desired took part in the proceedings. Interesting information was imparted as to the torms on which the Toboggan Club is given possession of the grounds during the winter months. The grounds and buildings are to be restored to the Driving Club in the soring in as good order and condition as when the tobogganers took possession, and if the enterprise proves a financial success the Driving Club is to receive 10 per cent. of all net profits, "How about the club being responsible for financial losses or possible damages in case of accidents?" inquired a prudent member. "Oh, that's all right!" exclaimed a jolly member. "I don't know about that," repiled the first speaker. "I believe that all parties who share in the profits are liable for losses. Is there a lawyer in the room?" There was no response to the call for a lawyer. The matter was referred to the Executive Committee.

Gen. W. H. Jackson, manager, of the Belle

Gen. W. H. Jackson. manager of the Bello Mende stock farm, near Nashville. Tenn., recently gave some idea of the immense area of the estate to a correspondent of the Alianda Constitution. He said that visitors generally see but little of the place. They usually look at the thoroughbred horses and then visit the deer park. There are now 5.300 acres enclosed by walls and fences. Twenty miles of stone wall cost \$1 a yard. During the seventeen years that Gen. Jackson has been in charge of the estate he has added I seven thoroughbred stallions, including froquois, and eighty brood mares to the stock, at a cost of \$65,000. There are now 100 brood mares, the produce of which are sold as yearlings by metion cach May, Nothing is sold off the form except that which walks off on four feet. There are 500 beef cattle, which are fattened on grass. Poland, China, and Berkshire hogs abound, about 175 of which are killed annually for the home meat supply. Flocks of Southdown sheep and hundreds of Cashmere goats roam over the farm. Sixty Shetland ponies kick up their heels in the paddocks, and many doer browse in the park.

The \$10,500 Tea Tray, on which the Dwyer The \$10,500 Tea Tray, on which the Dwyer Brothers expect to carry off many rich prizes next season, has caused great anxiety at Sheepshead Bay during the past week. The colt is believed to have caught cold during this trip from Kentucky to the seashore. The cold developed into a sickness that became so alarming that a veterinary surgeon was summoned. Through careful treatment and nursing the most famous son of Rayon d'Or has improved so rapidly during the past few days that Frank McCabe, Dwyer Brothers experienced trainer, believas he is entirely out of enced trainer, believes he is entirely out of danger. The loss of Tea Tray, after the death of kinglish, would greatly weaken the string of three-year-olds in the leading stable.

Jockey Isaac Murphy, following Garrison's lead, lately purchased, six rare horses at a cost of about \$10,000. A promising one in the string is a very racing-like two-year-old son of Langfellow, which he will run next senson. The colt is engaged in all the three-year-old stakes. The famous jockey has built a stable on his piace near Lexington, and will train his own horses. While it is understood that he will continue to ride for Lucky Baldwin, no agreement has yet been signed for next season. Murphy now weighs 137 pounds. He will have

The Hon, August Belment, the Hon, W. L. Scott, A. J. Cassatt, D. D. Wilbers, J. B. Hargin, the Dwyer Erothers, Capt. Sam Brown, Lucky Bahwin, J. D. Morrissey, Walter Gratz, Appleby & Johnson, Mrs. Harriett Brown, J. & J. Swigert, D. T. Pulsifer, Emery & Co., L. C. Behman, G. H. Kernaghan, J. E. McDonald, J. Cotton, J. B. Nixon, J. J. Carter, B. Kaim, M. Weisenberger, and the Preakness and flevere Stables have made nominations for the Brooklyn Derby, to be run in 1889.

The handlers of race borses who winter at The handlers of race horses who winter at Jerome Park were surprised the other day when they saw oid Parole led into the grounds again and consigned to the enre of Walter Relies. When the great handless winner returned from England he played counting in his races, as though lee had done enough to entitle him to honorable retirement. After his last failure in Jerome Park three years ago Mr. Lorillard presented him to Dr. Green to be used as a saddle horse. He was afterward turned out in Tuxedo Park. The agod brown son of Leamington and Maiden appears in robust form again, and it is said that he will be put in training. The probability is that he will be used only as a conch for young members of Pietre Lorillard, Jr.'s racing string.

Pierro Lochilard, Jr.'s racing string.

A compilation of statistics in the Twrf, Field and Farm shows that there were some wonderfully fast race horses on the American turf hat season. The best time made in 1886, 1:41, was beaton a full second by Stuyeeant, who ran in 1:40, which is the best time ever made in a race against other horses, and but a quarter of a second behind Ten Broeck's famous 1:39%, the best on record, which was made against time on a prepared track with the advantage of a running start. Not only was 1:41 badly beaten by Stuyeesant, but he ran another mile in 1:415, showing that it was not a chance performance. Burch, 1:30%, Jacobin, 1:40%, and Edian, 1:40%, also lowered the previous year's record.

The came old steeplechaser, Trouble, has

The game old steeplechaser. Trouble, has experienced hard times since the days when he sailed over the rails with top weight. After pulling double behind a Saratoga omnibus he was set to drawing a sand wagen, but now his lines have fallen in brighter places. He is to be leading companion to the filly Netroma in the play of "A Kun of Luck," shortly to be produced in this city. If Netroma displays the temper behind the footlights that she did at the post, the play will have a lively run, and so will the actors.

Mr. E. D. Morgan, the gentleman rider who bought Quito and several other useful race horses at the Scott sale, will be well backed at the Cedarhurst and other cross-country meet-ings next senson. Quito is said by trainers to have worked a mile and a quarter last spring, with weight up, in 2:08, running the mile in 1:40.

Mr. Frederick Gebhard is getting a formid-able racing string together for next year's campaign. Jockey F. Day, who began making a name on the turf across the water by winning several hotly contested races, will ride for Mr. Gebhard. Day came over recently on a visit to Barbee. Day can ride at 100 pounds.

Capt. William M. Conner recently purchased the speedy four-year-old racing mure Faience, by Mortemer, dam Felicity, from Mr. William Wall, brother to Lerry Wall, Faicnes's career was impended by being cut down for one of her early races. Capt. Conner will send her to Bend d'Or in the spring, in the hope that she may produce a winner. may produce a winger.

Quotations are already made of \$10,000 to \$100, play or pay, against Hanover for the Suburban. Betting men who invested on Tremont last year for the great handicap, including members of the stable, will probably fight shy of winter betting. The Suburban prize has generally fallen to rank outsiders.

The Crandell Tragedy.

Dec. 24.—The condition of Mrs. Julia N. Crendell, who was shot by her husband at Ballston, is unchanged. The pros-pect of her recovery improves such day. The funeral of two of the victims of last Monday,s tragedy was held at 11 o'clock this morning from the family residence at Ballston. The body of Mrs. Stone, mother of Mrs. Crandell, and of Miss Julia Balkley were brought to this city. THE OYSTER WAR.

An Unpleasantness that Artees Once a Yea on Chesupenke Bay.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24 .- The oyster war on the Chesapeake is assuming that bellicose and threatening situation which annually characterizes it at this season. It is the height of the oyster season so far as the taking up of the uxurious article of diet is concerned, and the season when those engaged in the trade make heir most profitable hauls. It is for this reason that the dredgers are most desperate and reck-

ess in what they call asserting their rights. The war is carried on by the State oyster police oree, the tongsmen, and the German Society on the one side, and the dredgers on the other The State force is influenced by duty to enforce the law, the tongemen's motives are selfish and the German Society's philanthropic. The dredgers are nerved by the feeling that their livelihood depends upon their occupation, and the belief that they, of all people in the world, have the best right to take oysters on the forbidden grounds which are near their own This year the theatre of the war is in

the neighborhood of Swan's Point, and the contest is becoming exciting. The war began on Monday night last, and since then there have been three battles. The preliminary skirmish took place on Monday, when the dredgers endeavored to drive the oyster steamer Gov. Hamilton, in command of Capt. furner, deputy commander of the force, from the grounds. On Wednesday night the three State police steamers, Commander Plowmen in charge, met the dredgers, and succeeded in capturing one of the boats. This, however, is very slight matter considering the number of

a very slight matter considering the number of vessels and of men engaged in dredging. The State steamers are obliged to cover a great area, and cannot spend much time at one place. As soon as it was known that they would guard the grounds at Swan's Point, the dredgers began to show unusual boldness at other forbidden points. Off went the steamers, and the result has been a return of the dredgers to Swan's Point. Here, besides the State force, the dredgers have the tongsmen to fight, but as these have no large boats, and can only attack them from the shore, the dredgers stand in no great fear of them.

When the tongsmen found themselves supported by the State force they procured a large howitzer, and with that threatened to deal out death and destruction among the unlawful dredgers. This weapon was captured, however, by the pirates, who invaded the Point in the dead of night and carried the gun off. The tongsmen were equal to the emergency. They at once secured another cannon twice the size of that stolen, and planted it on the bluff. It rests on a carriage, and can be swung in any direction. The pirates have the greatest respect for the monster weapon, and make it a point to anchor far away from shore. Attack from the rear is what they dread most. Their favorite hours of work are at night. The darker it is the better they like it. Lights are never displayed, and a sharp lookout is maintained

point to anchor far away from shore. Attack from the rear is what they dread most. Their favorite hours of work are at night. The darker it is the better they like it. Lights are never displayed, and a sharp lookout is maintained to prevent a surprise.

The German society have nothing to do with the unlawful taking of men. or, as it is termed. Standarding. The lot of the dredger is a very hard one, and outside of the rough people who are accustomed to the life, very few can be found who would intentionally ship as a hand on an oyster boat. The sufferings and hardships incident to the business are terrible, and for years shanghaing has been resorted to as the only means of getting hands. The "shanghai" is generally a German emigrant looking for work, who is merely asked whether he would like to go to work down the bay for a week or so. He consents, enters the boat, and is taken to the oyster pungy or schooner. There he is put to work at dredging, and being unaccustomed to the cold and exposure, soon becomes unable to do anything. The sicker and weaker he becomes, the more he is abused, and when he reaches a point where he is of no use, he is landed on a deserted shore and there abandoned. A number of influential German citizens formed a society about a year ago for protection against this evil, but as it is almost impossible to learn who the wrong-doers are, and equally difficult to find them, the society has thus far been of little avail.

HISTORIC LOGS.

Punctured with Indian Butlets 100 Years Ago, They lie Duty in a Hog Pen,

NEW DERRY, Pa., Dec. 24 .- On the premses of John Cummins of this township are a corn crib and a pigsty, each of which is built of logs. The logs are thickly punctured with builet holes, and the builets that made them are still embedded in the logs. The logs were cut more than 100 years ago by Col. Pomeroy, one of the first settlers in what is now Westmoreland county, who built a log cabin in the wilderness with them for himself and family. Pomerov was a famous Indian fighter, as was Major Bell, who lived with his family in a cabin half a mile distant.
One day Col. Pomeroy's cabin was attacked

by a band of Indians. Pomercy barricaded himself and family in the cabin, and the Indians besieged them all the afternoon, firing frequently into the log walls. The firing was heard by Major Bell, who cropt through the woods to the spot. Seeing that the Indian force was too strong for him to attack, he returned home, placed his wife and two children on his two horses, and, taking a circuitous route through the woods, approached Pomeroy's besieged cabin from the rear. He succeeded in signalling the Colonel, and Pomeroy managed to get away from his cabin with his lamily under cover of the woods in the rear. His wife and children mounted the horses behind Major Bell's wife and children, and the party escaped to Fort Wallace, live miles distant, without the andians discovering them. Soldiers were sent back to attack the Indians, but they had disappeared. The bullet-punctured cabin was occupied by Col. Pomeroy and descendants of his until 1840, when it was purclused by John Curemins, who tore it down and made his pigpen and corn crib out of its historic logs.

One of Mejor Bell's descendants, living in the same neighborhood, has the gun which that noted Indian fighter and Hevolutionary soldier used in all of life excludis. One of these, which is related as an especially able and characteristic feat of the Major, is to the effect that once an Indian, in an endeavor to entrap the willy and greatly feared enemy of his race, imitated the call of the wild turkey near the Major's cabin. The Major was a great lover of turkey hunting, and his practised car detected a difference between the call of the bird and the sound of the Indian send, although the imitation was almost perfect. He took his gun and dragged himself on his stomach through the brush in the direction of the sound. He finally located the call in a tall pine tree, and discovered the ladian perched on a branch near the very top, Major Fell fired, and the Indian lenged high above the tree top and tumbled to the ground. The dead Indian was recognized by the Major as likek Wolf, one of the most daring and bloodthirsty of the Seneca chiefs. quently into the log walls. The firing was heard by Major Bell, who crept through the woods to

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., Dec. 24 .- A number of sudden and remarkable deaths of aged and conspicuous citizens of Orange county have occurred within a few days past. Among others Charles Moore, aged 61 years, and residing near Monroe village, who retired in good health and was found dead in his bed next morning. Another case is that of Samuel Gale, aged 75, for many years Postmaster and Erie Bailroad agent at Pine Island station, who, while apparagent at Pine Island station, who, while apparently well, went out to his barn, and was found by his family a few minutes later lying dead there. Still another case is that of Daniel Dussenberre, an eccentric farmer of the town of Warwick, who had long predicted that he would die in the 73d year of his age, and who passed that birthday in June last. On the day before his death he called his six children to the bedside, and after telling them that his time had come according to the promonition he had long entertained, and that he should die at a certain hour next day, he gave them his final instructions and bade them farewell. He did, in fact, expire next day at the hour he foretoid.

88,500 Damages In a Slander Case.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 24 .- In the case of Thomas F. Cosgrove, attorney at law, against Harry W. Gardiner for slander, in which damages were laid at \$10,000, a jury to-day awarded \$3,500 damages. This was a case in which Gardiner, Cosgrove's client in a suit against Gardiner. Cosgrove's client in a suit against Henry J. Steers for felonious assault, withdrew the charge in open court, confessed to perjury, and accused Cosgrovo of conspiring with him to binckmail Steers. Gardiner has already been in jall six months, and Cosgrove to-day told the Court that he would pay his board for the six months additional that must elapse before he can take the poor debtor's oath.

BUFFALO, Dec. 24.-Judge Haight this morning handed down his decision in the case of the People against Hiram B. and Charles M. of the People against Hiram B. and Charles M. Everest of Rochester, who were convicted some time a, o of conspiracy to injure trade and commerce in an alleged attempt to burt the Buffalo Labricating Oil Company. The motion for a new trial was recently made and submitted, and this motion Judge Haight denies. An appeal will be taken to the General Term of the Supreme Court, and in any event the Court of Appeals will finally be called on to determine the case.

GOSSIP ABOUT THE BOXERS.

WHAT MAY COME OUT OF THE FIGHT BETWEEN KILRAIN AND SMITH

The Big Fellow Hot in the Collar on Account Little Mistake of Judement-The Wily Mitchell-Matters on this Side. The pugilistic sensation of the week was he international fight between Jake Kilrain

and Jem Smith, and for weeks to come it will be the subject of much difference of sporting opinion. It was undecisive in determining the point at issue, though it clearly demonstrated the fact to all impartial men that Kilrain was the better pugilist. British pluck, coupled with British luck, endurance, and cunning, for the thousandth time pulled through undefeated where British skill and science would have come to grief. Jem Smith is the typical physical John Bull. The one quality among all others which makes England so great is the dogged stubbornness with which her sons deny defeat. For twenty rounds Smith had not the ghost of a show of winning, and yet he answered every call of time, trusting that something would turn up that would give him the advantage. Smith's seconds hoped for the

French police, and when they came not, they looked hopefully at the gathering rain clouds, and welcomed darkness as their best friend. It came just in the nick of time to save England's puguistic credit and renown.

The betting showed that the English greatly underestimated Jake and propertionately overland Smith. The idea of save context were as the context of in their judgment. Nothing but insular pride and ignorance ever prompted the giving of such odds. Had they stopped to reusen for a moment they never would have offered them. Either they intended that Jake should never win or they were "away off their base," as we say in this country. The American had height and reach in his favor, and was fully as clever as Smith. Though he had never had a bare knuckle light, he had fought two men, yes, three to Smith's one, and consequently was that much whom I say that I never had so unght to win if he got fair play. By the way, he got much fairer play than I ever thought he would. Of the seventy odd persons at the ring side not more than half a dozen were his partisans. None of the outsiders was guilty of any physical interference with the contest, but Jake himself bears testimony to the fact that their cries and words of encouragement to Smith had a depressing effect on him and that he had had more theirs was guilty of any physical interference with the contest, but Jake himself bears testimony to the fact that their cries and words of encouragement to Smith had a depressing effect on him and that he would have fought with much better heart if he had had more theirs bebind him.

Smithe crowd lift in American particular and their were at least two there who would have been only too clad to make swe henchion. But for the gough day the man on the ground they repeatedly gough his good eye and tried to blind him. Charley Mitchell charged them with so doing again and again, and they round they repeatedly gough his good eye and tried to blind him. Charley Mitchell was not able to give his opponent above to it me for his fac

semething, which Sullivan cannot or win now accept, and then the match will fail through, with the blame put on Sullivan. Either that, or Mitchell will so contrive matters as to have his heelers at the ring, either to prevent the fight or keep Sullivan from winning. There are more ways of killing a cat than by choking him to doath with meled butter, and what Charley does not know about scheming when he has a gang at his back is not worth learning. Should they meet on the level in anything less than an acre lot the champion will win.

The Ike Weir-Tommy Warren fightended as everybedy expected. For a cunning little conniver, Warren not only takes the bun, but the bakery and good will as well. Now he has haggled out of a finish fight with Patsey O'Leary, and offers him instead a twonty-round Queensberry contest in Minneapolis. No doubt O'Leary will eventually accept, for there is good money in such a contest bosides comparative safety for Warren's reputation. He knows that underordinary circumstances it is virtually impossible for men as noarly matched as he and Patsey are to do each other any great amount of damage with gioves that the police will prescribe in that number of rounds. He is as clever as a simplifier-home rat, but some day he will run across a chan who think as much as he does, and then his nice-tail schemes will come to grief.

Poor Paddy Ryan is dished and done, Years ago he got angry at me because I fold him that a runtered man had no business in the ring as a principal. Joe McAuliffe seems to be a big young giant who starts on well, and should be heard from again. I presume Paddy's defeatents his match with Cardia, for certainly he cannot expect to have the slightest channes with so powerful and tricky a men as Cardiff is, Poor Paddy: He was a great failure as a puglist, and though he has the fagulty by this gental manners, of making friends, he does not know how to keep them ions.

Poor Paddy: He was a great failure as a puglist, and he has made overtures to Demonstrate with a man bigger than h

How they Do it to the Country.

The Episcopal Church in Freehold, N. J. will appear this morning decorated so as to transform it from a plain and old-fashioned building into a bower of holiday greenery. Ten wagon loads of greens were used by the fair ones of the congregation, who twistedithem into nearly a thousand feet of green rope as thick as the average man's head, and swung the cables in every direction from the centre of the celling. They built all manner of suitable devices of evergreens in the shape of screens and crosses and the like, to be put wherever they made the best appearance. The evergreens are cut in the woods. The region around Froshold is a harvest field for Washington Market decilers, who ransack even the cemeteries and gardens for fir, box, and all the other ornamental growths that keep their hue in winter. If they get permission to cut from one lot in a cemetery they despoil ten lot around it, and on the plea that they will trin the box trees in the gardens, they carry of cart loads of boughs from each village. Ten wagon loads of greens were used by the